

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08
FEAE-00 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 OES-06 STR-04
TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02 AGRE-00 DLOS-09 HEW-04
CU-02 NASA-01 OPIC-03 XMB-02 FRB-03 SIL-01 LAB-04
/143 W

-----181615Z 124299 /45

R 181132Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8546

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CT

SUBJECT: GOCAE ANNUAL POLICY STATEMENT

SUMMARY: IN WHAT AMOUNTED TO A "STATE OF THE EMPIRE" SPEECH APRIL 14, PRIME MINISTER PATASSE DESCRIBED A FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE WITH ALL BUT PARTICULARLY WITH COUNTRIES OF THE REGION AND OTHER MEMBERS OF OCAM. HE SPOKE OF RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR NAMIBIA, RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. ON THE DOMESTIC SIDE, HE EMPHASIZED SEVERAL PROGRAMS WHICH WE ARE AIDING AND COMMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT TO A FREE-ENTERPRISE SYSTEM. HE SAID HE WOULD CALL A ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF CAE DEBTS. ALTHOUGH HE MADE NO REFERENCE TO POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, HE DID STRESS HUMAN RIGHTS, AND WE UNDERSTAND SEPARATELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HOPES TO HOLD NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN THREE-FOUR MONTHS. END SUMMARY

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1. THE PRIME MINISTER PRESENTED THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR TO A MEETING OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND DIPLOMATS IN THE FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HALL APRIL 14. THE SPEECH WAS CARRIED LIVE ON CAE RADIO.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS: THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AT THE OUTSET THAT, "IN A WORLD IN PERPETUAL CHANGE AND IN AN AFRICA IN FULL AGITATION, WE

ARE CONVINCED OF THE NECESSITY FOR TOTAL ADHESION TO THE MOST SACRED RIGHTS AND VALUES OF MEN."

3. FOREIGN POLICY: HE REAFFIRMED THE CAE SUPPORT OF THE UN AND OAU CHARTERS AND OF THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, OF RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND OF NON-ALIGNMENT. HE SUPPORTED THE EMPEROR'S DECLARATION SUPPORTING ZAIRE AND, WHILE NOT GOING INTO DETAILS, ARGUED AGAINST THE USE OF ARMS WHICH "WEAKENS US, WEAKENS AFRICA AND IS THE GAME OF THE ENEMIES OF AFRICA." THE PRIME MINISTER DESCRIBED THE REGIONAL CUSTOMS AND ECONOMIC UNION, UDEAC, AS "A PRIVILEGED INSTRUMENT OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION" AND MENTIONED PARTICULARLY ITS SUPPORT FOR A RAIL LINK FROM BANGUI TO THE OCEAN AS A REGIONAL PROJECT. HE PLEDGED TO WORK FOR GREATER EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ORGANIZATION COMMUNE AFRICAINE ET MAURICIENNE (OCAM). INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION SHOULD BE FIRST AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEN BETWEEN THEM AND THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, HE OBSERVED.

4. SOUTHERN AFRICA: IN A FAIRLY STRONG STATEMENT FOR A COUNTRY WHICH HAS INFORMAL TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, "THE CAE SUBSCRIBES FULLY TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES...THIS UNIVERSAL LIBERTY APPLIES TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WHO ARE STILL UNDER THE YOKE OF IMPERIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM. THE STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, OF NAMIBIA AND OF SOUTH AFRICA PROCEEDS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT YET HAVE THEIR FULL AND COMPLETE LIBERTY...THE CAE SUPPORTS AND WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE JUST STRUGGLE OF AFRICAN PEOPLE STILL UNDER OPPRESSION."

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5. RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES: THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE CAE REMAINS OPEN TO ALL COUNTRIES WHICH RESPECT ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND SHARE ITS IDEALS.

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: "DISENCLAVEMENT," OR A BETTER TRANSPORTATION ROUTE TO THE SEA, REMAINS THE FIRST PRIORITY FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY. IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS WITHIN THE COUNTRY ALSO HAS A HIGH PRIORITY. AFTER THESE COME DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, MINERAL RESOURCES, HEALTH AND EDUCATION. THE PRIME MINISTER MENTIONED SEVERAL PROJECTS WHERE THERE ALREADY IS OR WILL BE AN INPUT BY USAID OR PRIVATE US COMPANIES: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, FISH FARMING, HEALTH SERVICES AT THE VILLAGE LEVEL, AND THE USE OF MODERN MASS MEDIA IN EDUCATION. HE SALUTED AND ENCOURAGED CONCOCO, FOR ITS OIL EXPLORATION EFFORTS IN THE NORTH, AND NASA, AS AN INSTITUTION INTERESTED IN RESEARCH IN THE CAE.

7. FOREIGN INVESTMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER REITERATED "THE FUNDAMENTAL

CHOICE OF THE CAE FOR A FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMY."MY GOVERNMENT INTENDS IN A CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE AND DIALOGUE TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT...I CAN GIVE MY ASSURANCE TO BUSINESSMEN, WHETHER CENTRAL AFRICAN OR FOREIGN, THAT THEY WILL FIND GOOD WILL ON THE PART OF MY GOVERNMENT."

8. DEBTS: PATASSE CONDEMNED THE "NOISY CAMPAIGN" BY UNNAMED COUNTRIES AGAINST THE CAE FOR DEBT REPAYMENT, WHICH HAD "DESTROYED THE MRALE OF OUR COMPATRIOTS AND OUR FRIENDS." HE ASKED HOW ONE COULD DEMAND THAT A GOVERNMENT PAY CASH FOR THE EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND AT THE SAME TIME DEMAND PAYMENT OF PAST DEBTS. THE CAE, BECAUSE OF ITS LAN-LOCKED POSITION", "SUFFERS MORE THAN ANY OTHER THE EFFECTS OF MONETARY EROSION AND INTERNATIONAL INFLATION," HE ARGUED. WHEN THE SAME SITUATION WAS FACED IN EUROPE IN 1945, THERE HAD BEEN THE MARSHALL PLAN; MORE RECENTLY THERE HAD BEEN SPECIAL AID TO BRITAIN. "FOR OUR PARTNERS, I PROPOSE SPECIFICALLY THAT A ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE MEET VERY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOON, NOT ONLY TO STUDY THE TOTALITY OF PROPER SOLUTIONS FOR AMICABLY SETTling THIS PROBLEM OF ARREARAGES, BUT EQUALLY AND ABOVE ALL TO ENVISAGE A COMMON AGREEMENT ON FUTURE SOLUTIONS." IN CONNECTION WITH THIS, THE PRIME MINISTER OBSERVED THAT THE NATIONALIZEDCOTTON COMPANY, UCCA, HAD FULLY COMPENSATED ALL OF THE FORMER SHARHOLDERS AND THAT THE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY, CENTRA-HYDRO, WOULD SETTLE ITS PROBLEMS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL AOIL COMPANIES BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

9. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT: THE SPEECH MADE NO MENTION OF ELECTIONS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PERHAPS BECAUSE UNDER THE CONSTITUTION THE PRIME MINISTER IS EQUAL TO AND DOES NOT CONTROL THE ASSEMBLY. SEPARATELY, HOWEVER, THE MINISTER FOR PARTY AFFAIRS TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPED TO BEGIN ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL PARTY UNITS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE, WITH ELECTIONS TO FOLLOW THREE OR FOUR MONTHS FROM NOW. QUANTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, SPEECHES, PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGUI00770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2780469
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOCAE ANNUAL POLICY STATEMENT SUMMARY: IN WHAT AMOUNTED TO A \"STATE OF THE EMPIRE\" SPEECH APRIL 14, PRIME MINISTER PATASSE DESCRIBED A FOREIGN POL
TAGS: PFOR, CT, (PATASSE, ANGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/27ccba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009